

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

TRANSLATION

From the
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

PCT

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

(PCT Rule 43bis.1)

To:

Date of mailing
(day/month/year)

Applicant's or agent's file reference
FTE0504-PCT

FOR FURTHER ACTION

See paragraph 2 below

International application No.

PCT/JP2005/003199

International filing date (day/month/year)

25.02.2005

Priority date (day/month/year)

27.02.2004

International Patent Classification (IPC) or both national classification and IPC

Applicant

KABUSHIKI KAISHA TOSHIBA

1. This opinion contains indications relating to the following items:

- ☒ Box No. I Basis of the opinion
- ☐ Box No. II Priority
- ☐ Box No. III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
- ☐ Box No. IV Lack of unity of invention
- ☒ Box No. V Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
- ☐ Box No. VI Certain documents cited
- ☐ Box No. VII Certain defects in the international application
- ☐ Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application

2. **FURTHER ACTION**

If a demand for international preliminary examination is made, this opinion will be considered to be a written opinion of the International Preliminary Examining Authority ("IPEA") except that this does not apply where the applicant chooses an Authority other than this one to be the IPEA and the chosen IPEA has notified the International Bureau under Rule 66.1bis(b) that written opinions of this International Searching Authority will not be so considered.

If this opinion is, as provided above, considered to be a written opinion of the IPEA, the applicant is invited to submit to the IPEA a written reply together, where appropriate, with amendments, before the expiration of 3 months from the date of mailing of Form PCT/ISA/220 or before the expiration of 22 months from the priority date, whichever expires later.

For further options, see Form PCT/ISA/220.

3. For further details, see notes to Form PCT/ISA/220.

Name and mailing address of the ISA/JP

Authorized officer

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WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

International application No.

PCT/JP2005/003199

Box No. I

Basis of this opinion

1. With regard to the language, this opinion has been established on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.
☐ This opinion has been established on the basis of a translation from the original language into the following language
_____, which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (under Rule 12.3 and 23.1(b)).
2. With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application and necessary to the claimed invention, this opinion has been established on the basis of:
 - a. type of material
☐ a sequence listing
☐ table(s) related to the sequence listing
 - b. format of material
☐ in written format
☐ in computer readable form
 - c. time of filing/furnishing
☐ contained in the international application as filed.
☐ filed together with the international application in computer readable form.
☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority for the purposes of search.
3. ☐ In addition, in the case that more than one version or copy of a sequence listing and/or table(s) relating thereto has been filed or furnished, the required statements that the information in the subsequent or additional copies is identical to that in the application as filed or does not go beyond the application as filed, as appropriate, were furnished.
4. Additional comments:

**WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY**

International application No.

PCT/JP2005/003199

Box No. V	Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement		
1. Statement			
Novelty (N)	Claims	1-5	YES
	Claims		NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims		YES
	Claims	1-5	NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	1-5	YES
	Claims		NO
2. Citations and explanations:			
<p>Document 1: JP, 5-503652, A (Four PI Systems Corp.), 17 June, 1993 (17.06.93), full text, Figs. 1-6, & US, 5259012, A, & WO, 1992-003969, A1, & EP, 500859, A1</p> <p>Document 2: JP, 7-5125, A (Fujitsu Ltd.), 10 January, 1995 (10.01.95), paragraph [0003]</p> <p>Document 3: JP, 53-140988, A (General Electric Co.), 8 December, 1978 (08.12.78), full text, Figs. 1-3, & US, 4105922, A, & GB, 1599484, A, & DE, 2815218, A1</p> <p>Document 4: JP, 11-339050, A (Hewlett-Packard Co.), 10 December, 1999 (10.12.99), full text, Figs. 1-11, & EP, 953943, A2, & US, 6002739, A</p> <p>The subject matter of claim 1 does not appear to involve an inventive step in view of documents 1 and 2 cited in the ISR. Document 1 describes an X-ray tomograph having (a) an X-ray generator to radiate X-rays on a subject wherein the focal point can be moved along circles, and (b) an X-ray-image-receiving element to receive transmitted-ray images when the focal point is moved. Document 1 does not clearly mention image processing; however, it is well known that, in such an apparatus, a tomogram can be obtained by integrating a plurality of images by transmitted rays obtained that correspond to the points of generation of X-rays, as described, for example, in document 2, paragraph [0003].</p> <p>The subject matter of claim 2 does not appear to involve an inventive step in view of documents 1-3 cited in the ISR. It is well known that a tomogram can be produced by extracting pixels having luminance values between predetermined upper and lower thresholds, as described, for example, in document 3.</p> <p>The subject matters of claims 3-5 do not appear to involve an inventive step in view of documents 1-4 cited in the ISR. It is well known that tomograms for a plurality of tomographic planes obtained by means of an X-ray tomograph can be processed for imaging to obtain stereoradioscopic images, as described, for example, in document 4. Document 4 (paragraph [0049]) also mentions that attention should be paid to the fact that the rate of enlargement changes according to the position of the plane.</p>			